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matter presented, Professor Bennett's grammar will be adequate for the work of the average student to the time when he commences to make Latin an elective study in college.

The book is eminently satisfactory also in point of grammatical statement. There is no needless parading of technical terms, no display of impertinent erudition in philological explanation, no cumulation of examples in instances where one or two typical cases, which illustrate the point fully, are as good as a dozen, and far more likely to be examined by the learner. It is a business-like book, which proceeds from a clearly formulated organic analysis of the whole subject to a well-considered presentation of detail; it is built up from a scientific working outline, and as a whole leaves on the reader the impression of unity in plan and execution. For this reason it will probably remain within the present limits of size, and not be expanded, "here a little and there a little," till it may be classed with the big grammars, and boast of its five hundred pages as well as they. The treatment of the Subjunctive Mood, for example, is so comprehensive and at the same time summed up in statements so concise and forcible that the pupil who is properly taught in it cannot fail to carry an outline of the whole topic in mind.

The typography of the volume is of exceptional good taste and attractiveness; the open pages, with a neat and unobtrusive but effective display of type, are well calculated to save the time of the pupil who is referred to it, and spare his eyesight as well. On the whole, this is beyond question the best Latin grammar for earlier work that has yet appeared in the English language.

Francis W. Kelsey

University of Michigan

A Manual for the Study of Insects. By JOHN HENRY COMSTOCK, Professor of Entomology in Cornell University and in Leland Stanford Junior University, and ANNA BOTSFORD COMSTOCK, member of the Society of American Wood Engravers. Comstock Publishing Co., Ithaca, N. Y., 1895. 677 pages, 797 wood engravings, in the text, besides numerous full page plates.

Any one who has known Professor Comstock must know what sort of a book the one he would write as a Manual of Entomology must be. It is an epitome of the life work and methods of its author; an introduction to the study of all that he has

found out. And this is the highest possible praise to a book of elementary science. In this field, it is only a master who can discard imitation and attitudinizing and be natural. Simple, direct, sound, and orderly, this book is in all its details. Its author being made in that way his book could not be otherwise. The good paper, the excellent type, the careful proof-reading, the clear diction, the excellent selection of typical forms, the exactness of details, all this represents Comstock's way. The admirably chosen and finely executed drawings are worthy of the rest and belong to it, for the drawing and engraving is the work of Mrs. Comstock. Many of these engravings rise from mere scientific illustrations to the rank of works of art.

This Manual cannot fail to give a great impetus to the study of insects. By its use it is possible for the beginner to be scientific. That is, he can be accurate from the first, and any increase of his knowledge will be along orderly lines. In a group in which "the number of species in a single family is in several cases greater than the number of stars visible in a clear night," the value of systematic arrangement cannot be overstated. Only those who have no knowledge of it can regard Systematic Zoölogy as child's play, or as unworthy the highest ability of men of science.

It is not easy to single out special points of excellence where all parts are so faithfully done. I may however call attention to two or three especially good points.

First of these is the recognition that Systematic Zoölogy is a branch of the study of Evolution; that sooner or later Classification and Phylogeny must be one and the same. The basis of Classification must be our appreciation of blood-relationship. When Classification, for want of facts, is based on artificial characters, its standing is tentative only. When the facts of Evolution are manifest, the Classification must conform to them. A natural Classification is the formal expression of the facts of descent. In Professor Comstock's admirable essay on Evolution and Taxonomy (published in the Wilder Quarter Century Book) certain principles of Classification have been made plain. The Classification of the Butterflies as given in the Manual is made to conform to these principles, and throughout the work the factors in Evolution are clearly recognized.

For example, p. 203: "Enough has been said, without going into further details here, to show that the way to determine the relationships of organized beings is to determine the

primitive form of their organs and the changes that have been brought about in these organs by the action of natural selection. The classification of animals and plants should not be merely the assorting of them into convenient pigeon-holes, but a serious study of their blood-relationships."

Another feature is that the author has constantly in mind the purpose of the book. It is written for students and written as a guide for the student in his acquisition of a scientific knowledge. By its aid the student gains a knowledge of Insects from the Insects themselves. The book does not stand between the student and his work. It does not furnish a substitute for knowledge. It is not a book about Insects but a *Manual*, a book to be held in the *hand*, while the insect is held in the other.

Still another element, worthy of the highest praise, is the good English in which the work is written. Good language is as necessary in science as a sharp knife or truthful lens. The fact that scientific books are written for men to read is too often overlooked. Germany, who has given us good models in so many matters of thoroughness and patience has given us the worst of models in matters of expression. Accuracy and clearness of expression are a gauge of clearness of thought. No amount of erudition without lucidity can make a book a classic.

Another feature of great value is the extension of a homogeneous naming of organs throughout the great group of insects. In the various treatises on special families or genera or faunæ, which makes up the bulk of the literature of Entomology, each writer has followed his own system of naming the parts he describes. The result of this is confusion. The student of any family has to learn a new set of terms when he turns to some related group.

There is, moreover, through the work a large amount of new material, results of unpublished research. It is the presence of results of individual investigation which distinguishes the work of a master from that of a compiler. An original authority will show his own work even in the most elementary details. A copyist can be original only in his blunders. A great mathematician makes himself felt even in the treatment of the multiplication table.

Teachers will also value the fact that the needs of three classes of students are met, students in university laboratories who hope to master the science, amateurs and collectors

interested in knowing the common or the attractive insects, and finally horticulturists, with whom insects harmful to vegetation stand in the nearest relation. Each of these classes of students will find his needs met in the pages and illustrations of the Manual.

The year 1895 will mark an epoch in the study of insects in America. There will be two entomologists where only one could grow before, and in this fact and its results the Comstocks will find their reward for the long days taken from their own advanced research to make the existence of other investigators possible.

David Starr Jordan

Leland Stanford Jr. University

Atlas of Classical Antiquities. By TH. SCHREIBER. Edited for English use by Professor W. C. F. ANDERSON, with a Preface by Professor PERCY GARDNER. London: Macmillan & Co. 1895. Price, \$6.50.

Schreiber's Atlas is not unknown to American teachers, but those who have known it in the German edition will be glad to welcome it in its English dress. It consists of one hundred plates, each about $12\frac{1}{2}$ by $9\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Each plate contains several illustrations. The greatest number we have noted on any one is seventeen. These, with varying degrees of artistic merit, represent antiquities illustrating the life of the Greeks and Romans. Accompanying each plate there is a descriptive text, giving the source from which the view is derived, with references to the authorities in which the subjects are more fully discussed, and following this there is a brief interpretation of the object. This, in the case of works such as vase-paintings, is especially necessary for young students wholly ignorant of the conventions of art. A large number of the illustrations in this volume are familiar to our students from reproductions in our text-books, but unfortunately it is too frequently the habit of the makers of such books to reproduce the illustration without a word of comment, and the needed explanation the teacher is not always able to supply. The chief merit of a book of this character is that, if rightly used, it will lead the student into correct habits of working and develop in him, with growing insight, that sense of power which is one of the chief rewards of his work, and at the same time the most powerful incentive to further effort.